

## MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING  
Village Hall Auditorium  
53 South La Grange Road  
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, April 21, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange special meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Langan, Horvath, Kuchler, Livingston, Palermo and Wolf

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn  
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson  
Village Attorney Mark Burkland  
Assistant Community Development Director / Planner Angela Mesaros  
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone  
Public Works Director Ken Watkins  
Police Chief Mike Holub  
Fire Chief David Fleege  
Doings Reporter Ken Knutson  
Suburban Life Reporter Joe Sinopoli

### 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger explained that this special meeting was a continuation of the April 14 meeting. President Asperger announced that the La Grange Garden Club would be holding its annual sale of plants at Kiwanis Park on Saturday, May 3. President Asperger stated the dates and times that the Lyons Township High School students would display their art exhibits in the Village Hall Auditorium. Lastly, President Asperger provided information on the computer recycling drive to be held at Lyons Township High School in conjunction with the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Thom Rae of Brookfield stated his concerns relating to the upcoming Closed Session, and his belief that its purpose does not conform with the Open Meetings Act. He then proceeded to instruct and review the law. President Asperger assured the

audience that there is no abuse of the public trust as alleged by Mr. Rae; the Village Board relies on its Village Attorney for legal advice; and that it will continue to do so.

Mr. Allan Foreman, 56 S. Seventh Avenue expressed concerns relating to the proposed townhome development on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mr. Foreman believes the height, bulk and entire project do not compliment the area.

Mr. Wayne Kardatske, 79 S. Seventh Avenue also expressed his concerns with the excessive height and density of the project.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Ordinance – Planned Development Ordinance – Planned Development Concept / Final Site Plan Approval to Authorize a Town Home Development, 47 South Sixth Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Development Group, LLC: Referred to Trustee Horvath

Trustee Horvath explained the background and details for the proposed townhome project. Noting that the proposal is consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, however requires zoning relief from several provision of the Code, including height, required yards, building coverage and lot coverage. Trustee Horvath noted the detailed deliberations of the Plan Commission including the Public Hearing. Trustee Horvath stated that on January 22, 2008 a motion to recommend denial of the Planned Development failed and a second motion was made to recommend to the Village Board approval of the application. For the purpose of discussion, Trustee Horvath moved to approve the ordinance, seconded by Trustee Palermo.

President Asperger invited the developer to make his presentation.

Mr. Hrizak noted compliance with the requests of the Plan Commission and presented visual concepts of the proposed Heritage Square development project.

Trustee Livingston expressed concerns with the height and lay-out of the project.

Trustee Palermo inquired about the location of the driveway and was informed that it was the only option based on the Plan Commission recommendation.

Trustee Kuchler inquired why townhomes were being considered for this area and was informed that it was part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Trustee Horvath expressed his concerns with the bulk and emergency access.

Fire Chief Fleege noted fire sprinklers would be required for certain units.

Trustee Langan feels there are some discrepancies in the developer's plans.

After much discussion and deliberation by the Board of Trustees, President Asperger informed the developer of his choice of options. Mr. Hrizak requested the item be tabled to allow ample time to revise his proposed development project to address the concerns of the Board.

Trustee Horvath moved to revise his motion to table this item, seconded by Trustee Livingston. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Resolution (#R-08-03) – Approving the FY 2008-09 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler indicated that this is a well developed five-year budget which offers insight into what is expected to occur over the next five years and can be used as a guideline for financial, administrative and operational purposes. Trustee Kuchler added that capital expenditures of approximately \$3.5 million are budgeted in FY 2008-09 which consists of \$1.8 million in street and intersection improvements, \$800,000 for the renovation of Stone Avenue train station; \$370,000 for water and sewer improvements, \$295,000 for street light replacement program debt service, and over \$260,000 in sidewalk, gutter, pedestrian signals, trees, signs and other improvements. Trustee Kuchler commented on the addition of two full-time personnel to enhance public safety, customer service and construction site management.

Trustee Kuchler noted that although the State's economic forecast predicts negative growth, the Village continues to maintain a healthy General Fund balance and continues to observe conservative financial management practices to lessen the burden of property taxes on La Grange residents and businesses.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler to adopt the Resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote. (Trustee Wolf exited prior to the vote.)

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

C. Ordinance (#O-08-08) – Water Rate Increase: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler explained that the scheduled increases in water are due to water rates charged by the City of Chicago which became effective January 1, 2008. Trustee Kuchler stated that the Village has absorbed previous water rate increases passed along by McCook, however the Village can no longer absorb the additional cost and is thereby seeking a 10% water rate increase for each of the next three years, beginning May 1, 2008. The estimated increase in cost to homeowners is

approximately \$50 annually. Trustee Kuchler noted these increases will allow the Village to maintain adequate reserves in the Water Fund and continue to maintain infrastructure.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler to approve the ordinance for a water rate increase, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

D. Increase in Parking Fines and Parking Decals: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler explained that current parking fines were last increased in 2003; residential decal rates last increased in 2002; and commuter and overnight decal rates last increased in 2004. Trustee Kuchler added that the proposed increases are consistent with the parking study recommendation to increase parking decal rates in smaller, scheduled increments on consistent intervals of four to five years.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler to approve an increase from \$25 to \$30 in parking violations; to increase monthly parking rates \$5 per month for commuter and residential decal parking permits; to increase residential parking decals for 24-hour covered parking within the parking structure (9A) to \$50 per month effective May 1, 2008, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

E. Increase in Parking Meter Rates: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler stated that parking meter rates have not been increased in several years and no longer reflect a market rate for this type of parking. Trustee Kuchler noted that in response to resident and commuter requests the 10-hour meters will be replaced with 12-hour meters. Trustee Kuchler moved to change the Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily metered parking rates to 25 cents per hour with a 12-hour maximum effective May 27, 2008, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

In the absence of Trustee Wolf, President Asperger requested Trustee Kuchler to present the remaining items on the current business agenda.

- F. Ordinance (#O-08-09) – Amending Fee Structure For Building, Plumbing, Mechanical and Electrical Permits: Referred to Trustee Wolf

Trustee Kuchler explained the items which are covered under permit fees and noted that staff with the assistance of the West Central Municipal Conference conducted a survey of area municipalities and found that adjustments in the Village's fee structure are warranted.

Trustee Kuchler moved to approve an ordinance amending the fee structure for building, plumbing, mechanical and electrical permits effective May 1, 2008, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

- G. Ordinance (#O-08-10) – Amending Registration Fees For Contractors: Referred to Trustee Wolf

Trustee Kuchler explained that registration and contractor fees for surrounding communities indicate that adjustments in the Village's fees are needed. Trustee Kuchler noted that an increase in registration fees of general contractors from \$75 to \$100 per year, and sub-contractors from \$50 to \$75 per year is consistent with area municipalities.

Trustee Kuchler moved to approve an ordinance amending the code of ordinances to reflect the new fee structure for contractor registration and licensing effective May 1, 2008, seconded by Trustee Langan. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON AGENDA

None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Closed Session – Purchase, Sale, or Lease of Real Property

It was moved by Trustee Langan and seconded by Trustee Livingston to convene in Executive Session to discuss the purchase, sale or lease of real property immediately following the meeting. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, and Livingston  
Nays: Trustee Palermo  
Absent: Trustee Wolf

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Horvath noted that he believes this evening's closed session to be within the guidelines of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Horvath commended Fire Chief Fleege and his staff for their recent life saving response to a resident.

Trustee Palermo explained his nay vote for the closed session. Trustee Palermo noted that he shares concerns that it is not within the guidelines of the Open Meetings Act.

President Asperger echoed Trustee Horvath's sentiments on outstanding service rendered to Village residents.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 p.m. the Board of Trustees adjourned to closed session.

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Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

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Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

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Approved Date